



Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP): A DoD Overview

**Colonel John Ciesla
Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army
For
Environment, Safety and Occupational Health**



Protecting the ultimate resource – our people!



Voluntary Protection Program

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formal recognition by OSHA• Exclusive: 2,000 Star Sites in the U.S. out of more than 7 million worksites• Recognizes workplaces that have gone beyond safety compliance into world class performance | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• VPP chosen due to proven mishap and worker's compensation claim reductions in both private and federal sectors• Installation progress is monitored by Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• VPP Recognition aligns with DoD's values & philosophy• Synchronizes with the SECDEF's goals of the Mishap Reduction Challenge | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increases SOH awareness, ownership & accountability• Increases readiness• Decreases injuries & illnesses• Improves employee morale• Provides positive return on investment• Provides positive public relations in the community & with political stakeholders• Improves safety management systems |

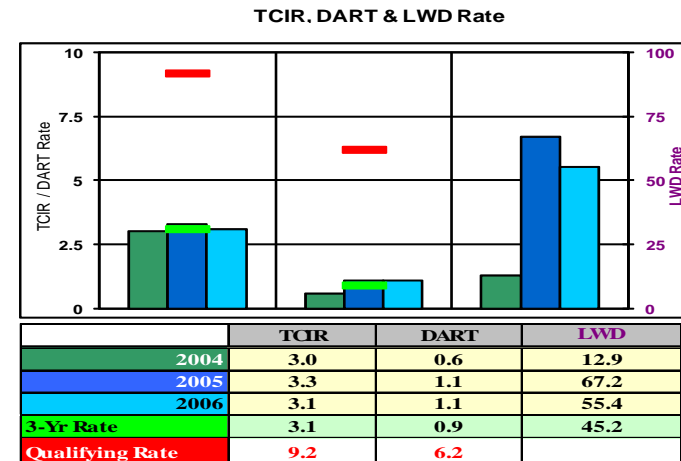
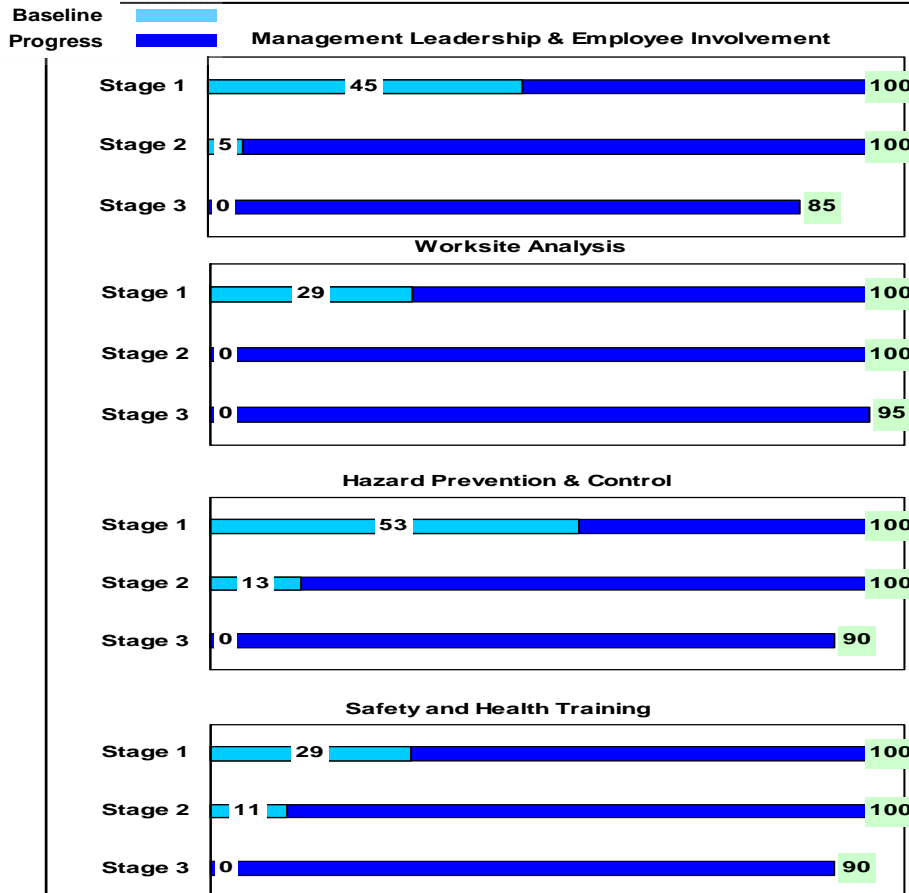


DoD Star Sites





Communicating Progress



Highlights

Key Milestones:

- Baseline Assessment Date: March 27, 2006
- Leadership Commitment Letter: November 2005
- Union Support Letter: January 2006
- VPP Kick-Off Event: March 2006
- VPP Application submitted, Date: 06 Aug 2007
- Onsite Evaluation 17-21 Sep 2007

Accomplishments / Successes: Recommended for VPP Star Site. Awaiting National Office Notification

Challenges / Issues: No Dedicated VPP Funding.

VPP Scope: MCLB Base Operations, approx. 417 employees.

NAIC Description: 493110 – Warehouse Operations.



DoD VPP Challenges & Lessons Learned

Challenges observed

- Recordkeeping
- Employee Involvement
- Contractor Safety

Lessons Learned

- Information sharing between Safety and Occupational Health required to complete OSHA 300 log
- Engage Union & Leadership early in the VPP Process
- To be effective, VPP must integrated into all processes



VPP Questions?

Colonel John Ciesla

**Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army
for Environment, Safety & Occupational Health**

(703) 697-3124

John.Ciesla@us.army.mil